

A Catalogue of the Birds in the Collection of the Bombay Natural History Society-6

Scolopacinae (part)

BY

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[Continued from Vol. 66(3): 559]

This part deals with 218 specimens of 19 species and subspecies up to No. 403 in IND. HANDBOOK (2: 297), up to Register No. 23299. Miss Shanta Nair, Research Assistant, attended to measurements and other routine work, and I am grateful for her assistance.

385 *Numenius phaeopus phaeopus* (Linnaeus) (Sweden) Whimbrel 6: 203

18: 10♂♂ 7♀♀ 1o?

1 *Bushire, Persian Gulf*; 1 Baluchistan; 1 Kandla, Kutch; 1 Thana Creek, 1 Thana District, 1 Bhyander, 1 Versova, 1 Bombay, 2 Panvel, Kolaba; 1 Pulicat, Chingleput, Madras; 3 Long Island, Middle Andamans, 2 Car Nicobar, 1 Camorta, 1 Great Nicobar.

Five of the seven from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are females, while eight of the ten males are from the west coast down to about Bombay.

With the literature available I have been unable to decide if any of them is *variegatus* (Scopoli).

386 *Numenius phaeopus variegatus* (Scopoli) (Luzon) Eastern Whimbrel 6: 204

nil.

387 *Numenius arquata arquata* (Linnaeus) (Sweden) Curlew 6: 200
nil.

388 *Numenius arquata orientalis* C.L.Brehm (East Indies) 6: 202

11: 3♂♂ 5♀♀ 3o?

1 *Amara, Iraq*; 2 Bharatpur, Rajasthan; 3 Kutch; 3 Kolaba District, Maharashtra; 1 *Peking, China*; 1 *col. C.M. Inglis* (=Bihar?).

All the specimens have almost unmarked axillaries and from the literature available appear to be of this race.

	Wing	Bill	Tail
♂ ♂ 280, 295, 295 (280-297)		141, 142, 142 (137-139)	104-107
♀ ♀ 290-307 av. 300 (300-314)		135-190 av. 161 (135-194)	107-110

The measurements include those of two females obtained near Bombay in October (and not in the Society's collection) which have very short bills (135, 143).

389 *Limosa limosa limosa* (Linnaeus) (Sweden) Blacktailed Godwit

11: 3 ♂ ♂ 3 ♀ ♀ 5 o?

3 *Baghdad*: 1 *Rohtak*, *Persian Baluchistan*; 1 Risalpur, N.W.F.P.; 1 Khara-ghoda, Gujarat; 2 Nasik, 1 Panvel; 1 col. C.M. Inglis (=Bihar?); 1 Manipur, Assam.

The females of this species are larger than the males, and this race (wing 205-240; bill 88-126; tarsus 75-82) is accepted (FAUNA and IND. HANDBOOK) as larger than *melanuiroides* (wing 176-207, bill 77-95, tarsus 66-73).

The five birds from Iraq and the north-west (1 ♀ 4 o?) are larger than the four from the rest of India (1 ♂ 3 ♀ ♀).

Wing	221, 222, 224, 230, 234	cf.	198, 211, 212, 215
Bill	102, 114, 116, 122, 127	cf.	103, 103, 104, 106
Tarsus	84, 85, 88, 90, 91	cf.	72, 75(2), 78

In the dry stage the former also have their bills more yellow, less dusky.

The female from Nasik (No. 20147) measuring 198, 104, and 75 may well be of the next form. A larger series of correctly sexed specimens from peninsular India is necessary¹.

390 *Limosa limosa melanuiroides* Gould (Port Essington, Australia) Eastern Blacktailed Godwit 6: 207

2 o? *Tientsin, China*.

Wing 194, 209 (LaTouche in BIRDS OF EASTERN CHINA measures 3 females; 192, 211, and 228); bill (one only) 106 (LaTouche: 72.5, 78.5, 112); tarsus 62, 75.

391 *Limosa lapponica lapponica* (Linnaeus) (Lapland) Bartailed Godwit 6: 252

4: 1 ♂ 2 ♀ ♀ 1 o?

1 Kandla, Kutch; 1 Bhyander, 1 Thana, Bombay, 1* Rewas, Kolaba.

The female obtained on 8 December* is much greyer above than the others (August-September).

¹ After this was completed a ♂ and a ♀ shot out of a flock at Rewas, Kolaba District, on 19 October 1969, were measured: wings 217 and 245, and bills 112 and 124 respectively.

392 *Tringa erythropus* (Pallas) (Holland) Spotted or Dusky Redshank 6: 223

10: 2♂♂ 5♀♀ 3o? (3 in summer plumage)

1 *Aliabad, 12 m. SE. of Shiraz, Iran*; 1 Khushdil Lake, Quetta; 1 Dodi, Malwa Plateau, Bhopal; 1 Bogna, Shahjehanpur, U.P.; 3 Darbhanga, Bihar; 2 no data, col. F.J.R. Field; 1 *Tientsin, China*.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	166, 168 (158-168)	57, 58 (53-59)	57, 57 (53-59)	66, 70 (60-68)
♀♀	164-169 av. 166.4 (166-177)	55, 56, 59 (57-64)	53-60 av. 56.6 —	63-68 av. 65.6 —

393 *Tringa totanus totanus* (Linnaeus) (Sweden) Common Redshank 6: 221

394 *Tringa totanus eurhinus* (Oberholser) (Tso Moriri Lake' 15,000', Ladakh) Eastern Redshank 6: 222

37: 10♂♂ 25♀♀ 20?

2 *Hawi Plain, 1 Samarra, Iraq*; 1 *Turbat, 1 Shiraz, 1 Kuh-e-Khwaja, Hamun Lake, Iran*; 1 *Rohtak R., near Sib, Persian Baluchistan*; 1 *Hajarganji, Baluchistan*; 3 *Bahawalpur, Punjab*; 2 *Kandla, Kutch*; 1 *Bassein, 2 Bhyander, 1 Hog Island, Bombay, 5 Belapur, Thana, 3 Panvel, 2 Rewas, Kolaba, 1 Rajapur, Ratnagiri*; 1 *Karwar*; 1 *Point Calimere*; 1 *Chilka Lake*; 3 *Calcutta Market*; 2 *Andamans*; 1 *Car Nicobar*.

There have been continued and considerable differences of opinion regarding the races of the Redshank occurring in India. Oberholser described *eurhinus* as larger than nominate *totanus*. Meinertzhagen said that they were not separable, but described *terrignotae* from Koko Nor, both races being said to winter in India. Stuart Baker (6: 220) accepted this, but later authors synonymised *terrignotae* with *eurhinus*! BIRDS OF SOVIET UNION (3: 230) does not accept either *eurhinus* or *terrignotae*, synonymising both with nominate *totanus*. In SYNOPSIS, both *totanus* and *eurhinus* were said to occur all over India, but in IND. HANDBOOK (2: 257) the occurrence of the nominate race in India is doubted.

The specimens available measure:—

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
9♂♂	153-166 av. 158 (ex Vaurie 152-165 av. 157.5)	43-45 av. 44.2 (from skull 45-51)	47-52 av. 49.5 (49-51)	61-66 av. 64 (63-72)
25♀♀	152-171 av. 160.4 (2♀♀ 162, 165)	42-50 av. 45 (from skull 51-54)	47-53 av. 49.9 —	59-71 av. 64.5 (67)

All the specimens are in winter plumage and it is evident that the grey sheen on freshly obtained specimens fades into the pale brown of the older skins in a few years.

The measurements of the bill from feathers, 39-42, for *Tringa t. totanus* as in BR. HANDBOOK (4: 330) are sufficient to separate them

from the present specimens, but as the measurements are not repeated by subsequent authors I presume they are not correct. A male obtained at Point Calimere on 18th October 1969 has its wing 150, bill 37 (tip broken), tail 63, and tarsus 44. The upper parts are darker and many of the feathers tipped with pale rufous indicating that this is a juvenile.

Without material from Europe, it is not possible to offer any remarks except to reiterate that (1) the birds from Mesopotamia do not differ from the others in size or colour, (2) the half-dozen specimens identified by Whistler and/or Ticehurst are all marked *eurhinus*, and (3) the others do not appear to be different.

395 *Tringa stagnatilis* (Bechstein) (Germany) Marsh Sandpiper or Little Greenshank 6: 216

8: 5♂♂ 3♀♀

1 Kandla, Kutch; 2 Panvel, 1 Dharamtar Creek, Kolaba; 1 Balugaon, Chilka Lake; 3 Calcutta Market.

	Wing	Bill
♂♂	145 (132-139)	40, 40, 41, 43 (37-40)
♀♀	137, 140, 142 (133-143)	39, 40 (40-50)

The measurements in IND. HANDBOOK (2: 261) are from BRITISH HANDBOOK and show some differences from those available.

396 *Tringa nebularia* (Gunnerus) (District of Trondhjem, Norway) Greenshank 6: 225

23: 12♂♂ 10♀♀ 1o?

1 Samara, 1 Azuzali, R. Tigris, Iraq; 1 Hamun Lake, Seistan, 1 Bampur R., near Pahrar, Persian Baluchistan; 1 Jaipur; 2 Vaghjipur, Mehsana; 1 Ahmedabad; 1 Ghoti, Nasik; 2 Thana; 3 Bhyander, Bombay; 1 Chilka Lake; 1 Baghowni, 1 Banhar, Darbhanga, Bihar; 1 Kheri, Oudh; 3 Calcutta Market; 1 Bhugwada, Nepal; 1 Meping R., Paknampo, Siam.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	177-205 av. 190 (184-194)	53-59 av. 55.6 (50-56)	58-67 av. 60 (55-61)	80-89 av. 82.3 (68-80)
♀♀	183-201 av. 190.5 (184-200)	54-60 av. 56.7 (53-59)	59-63 av. 61.5 —	75-86 av. 79 —

397 *Tringa ochropus* Linnaeus (Sweden) Green Sandpiper 6: 215

39: 13♂♂ 21♀♀ 5o?

1 Sulaimaniyah, Iraq; 1 Duzdap, E. Persia; 1 Sib, 1 Geh, Persian Baluchistan; 2 Wana, Baluchistan; 2 Chitral; 1 Kalsi, 1 Muglib, Ladakh; 1 Banyar, Kashmir; 1 Kashmor, Upper Sind Frontier; 1 Punjab; 4 Delhi, 1 Keonthal; 1 Patan, Jaipur; 3 Bombay; 1 Karwar; 1 Kumbum Valley, Kurnool Dist.; 1 Gondia, Balaghat; 1 Baghowni, Tirhut; 2 Cawnpore, 2 Meerut, 1 Kheri Dist.; 1 Karun-prayog, Garhwal; 1 Calcutta Market; 1 Imphal, Manipur; 1 Prome, 1 Thayet-myo, Burma; 3 Peking, China.

	Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
♂♂	136-152 av. 142.7 (136-148)	31-37 av. 34 (33-35)	31-39 av. 34-3 (32-34)	52-61 av. 57 (52-61)
♀♀	138-148 av. 143 (142-153)	33-36 av. 34.7 (33-36)	33-37 av. 34	55-62 av. 58

398 *Tringa glareola* Linnaeus (Sweden) Spotted Sandpiper 6: 219

36: 13♂♂ 20♀♀ 30?

2 *Baghdad, Iraq*; 1 *Kajjarak near Shiraz, Iran*; 2 *Sib, Persian Baluchistan*; 2 Harbuz, c. 55 m. east of Panjgur, Kalat, Baluchistan; 1 Chitral, N.W.F.P.; 1 Ladak, Kashmir; 1 Delhi; 1 Kutch; 1 Bardoli, Baroda, Gujarat; 1 Ghoti, Nasik, 4 Thana, 3 Kolaba; 2 Palnis; 2 Travancore; 1 Chilka, Orissa; 3 Calcutta Market; 1 Meerut, 1 Nahrosa, Pilibhit, U.P.; 1 Margherita, Assam; 1 Andamans; 3 *Burma*, 1 *Peking, China*.

♂♂

♀♀

Wing 122-134 av. 124.6 (IH 120-128) 122-132 av. 129 (IH 125-130)
 Bill 28-32 (IH 25-29 ex BR. HANDBOOK) 27-31 (IH ex BR. HANDBOOK 25-31)

Sp. No. 19756 from Thana District, Bombay, is in aberrant plumage being washed with greyish all over.

Two *T. ochropus* were listed under this species.

399 *Tringa guttifer* (Nordmann) (Okhotsk) Spotted Greenshank
nil. 6: 226400 *Tringa terek* (Latham) (Shores of the Caspian Sea about the mouth of the Terek River) Terek or Avocet Sandpiper 6: 212

9: 2♂♂ 3♀♀ 40?

1 *Kashgar, Chinese Turkestan*; 1 Karachi; 1 Bhyander, Bombay; 2 Rewas, Kolaba Dist.; 1 Cannanore, Malabar; 1 Point Calimere; 1 Calcutta Bazar; 1 Betapur, Middle Andamans.

The specimen from Cannanore is no doubt one of the two obtained at this place on 12 December 1931, and noted in the Eastern Ghats Survey (*JBNHS* 39: 255). It was later received on 6 December 1938 from Major Phythian-Adams, then resident in the Nilgiris, and the entries on the labels and in the Register were changed to read "Cannanore, Nilgiris, S.I., 6th Dec. 1938".

Wing	Bill	Tarsus	Tail
125-135 av. 130	43-52 av. 47	26-28 av. 27	47-52 av. 50
(126-141)	(♂♂ 43-49, ♀♀ 44-52)	(25-28)	(47-56)

401 *Tringa hypoleucos* Linnaeus (Sweden) Common Sandpiper
6: 217

28: 10♂♂ 11♀♀ 70?

1 *Feluja, R. Euphrates, Iraq*; 2 *Chaharbar (Chah Bahar ?), Persian Gulf*, 1 *Fao, 1 Karun River, Persia*; 2 Ashni R., 1 Chitral; 2 Chini, Simla Hills; 1 Chandigarh, Punjab; 1 Karachi; 1 Bodeli, Gujarat; 1 Bhyander, 1 Kurla, 1 Andheri, 1 Ghodbunder, 2 Bombay, 1 Rewas, Kolaba; 1 Karwar; 1 Edanad, Kerala; 1 Ceylon; 1 Rajora, 1 Bastar; 1 Baghowni, Bihar; 1 Rangpo, Sikkim; 1 Katchal, Nicobars.

♂♂

♀♀

Wing 104-113 av. 109 (106-114)	103-114 av. 108.4 (111-119)
Bill 23-27 av. 24.1 (23-25)	23-27 av. 25.2 (24-26)
Tail 51-60 av. 54.8 (50-59)	53-61 av. 55.7 (50-59)

402 *Arenaria interpres interpres* (Linnaeus) (Gotland, Sweden)
Turnstone 6: 154

19: 6♂♂ 8♀ ♀ 5o?

2 *Tanb Island, Persian Gulf*; 1 Karachi; 1 Mandvi, 1 Kandla, Kutch; 1 Bandra, 1 Gorai, Bombay; 1 Rewas, Kolaba; 2 Cape Comorin (1 missing); 2 Chilka Lake, Orissa; 1 Manipur, Assam; 1 Choldhari, 2 S. Sentinel Island, Andamans; 1 *Papun, Burma*; 2 *Tientsin, China*.

Wing ♂♂ 144-163 av. 151.6 (IH ex BR. HANDBOOK 147-157)

♀ ♀ 142-159 av. 150 (IH. ex BR. HANDBOOK 146-162)

403 *Limnodromus semipalmatus* (Blyth) (Calcutta Bazar) Snipe-billed Godwit 6: 210

2 o? (1, head only) Chilka Lake, Orissa.

Wing 181 (177-181); bill 81, 84 (77-87)

The statement in IND. HANDBOOK (2: 276) that it can be separated in the field from a godwit by its conspicuously slenderer, longer bill is no doubt in error, for the bill is appreciably *shorter* than that of the Blacktailed (102-127) and no longer than in the Bartailed (♂ 71, ♀ 91, 99, 1 unsexed 82).

I may also draw attention to the fact that I have changed the type locality from "Madras" to "Calcutta Bazar". Jerdon first obtained a specimen in the Madras Market and sent it to Blyth at the Indian Museum at Calcutta, and it is in the first place misleading to indicate the type locality as Madras. Some time later (1848), Blyth described the species *Macrorhamphus semipalmatus* with Jerdon's name as author. At the same time he stated that the description was based on a fresh specimen from the Calcutta Bazar. The authorship is correctly attributed to Blyth, and the bird which formed the basis of the description, i.e. the bird from the Calcutta Bazar, would be the type.

(to be continued)